

FALL ISSUE 2022

# CHILDREN'S CONNECTION



John Ryan was born with a rare genetic disorder and his parents credit early intervention and CSH for the progress he is making on his developmental journey.



For the Friends of Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation

## Foundation President's Message



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*Seeing the success of the Transforming Lives 2.0 campaign with each new CSH facility that opens makes me feel incredibly thankful for our generous donors.*

— PHILIP SALERNO III —

CSH Foundation President & Chief Development Officer

Welcome to the fall issue of Children's Connection. There is an element of celebration in this issue as we acknowledge the successes of our patient, John Ryan, and the incredible commitment of a group of dedicated runners who will take to the streets of New York City to run the marathon for CSH Foundation.

You'll also find some highlights from this summer, including a recap of our first "I LOVE CSH" Giving Day—an extraordinary day that we celebrated with our friend, Todd Frazier, Major League Baseball All Star, Toms River legend, and honorary co-chair of the Transforming Lives 2.0 capital campaign.

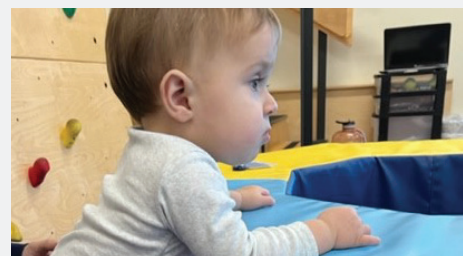
We were honored to once again gather with our supporters and friends at our sixth annual golf Open and the 15th annual PSE&G vendor golf outing. Our patients enjoyed in person and virtual visits from celebrities including professional soccer player and Olympian, Carli Lloyd, and actress, author and singer, Ali Stroker!

The most exciting event of the summer was the opening of another brand new CSH outpatient center in Eatontown, NJ—the very first CSH outpatient center in Monmouth County. We are so proud to have raised the funds to support this expansion into Monmouth County through the Transforming Lives 2.0 capital campaign. Because of you, thousands of children in central New Jersey now have convenient access to the specialized care they need to reach their full potential.

We continue to work hard to reach our \$45 million campaign goal and we are proud to report that we are 75% of the way there! But it is now, as we are so close to the finish line, that we need all of our supporters to help us be successful in the largest feat in our history. When this campaign is completed, our efforts will increase patient capacity at CSH by 40% and, through technological improvements and vital research studies, design the next generation of pediatric care so New Jersey's children will always have access to the best specialized care in the nation.

I hope you enjoy reading about what we've been up to since I last wrote and how your generosity is transforming the lives of children and families every single day. I've said it many times before, and as I watch the expansion of CSH happening because of our caring supporters like you, I can honestly say that have never meant it more—we could not do any of this without you.

Thank you so very much.



## 05: COVER STORY

**JOHN RYAN FERNANDEZ**

was born with a rare genetic disorder that causes severe muscle weakness. Find out how CSH is helping him push past limitations.

## 03

PSEG Foundation awards grant to help CSH improve health equity in our patient population.

## 07

**Todd Frazier** helps us celebrate the first annual I LOVE CSH Giving Day.

## 10

Actress, singer and author, **Ali Stroker**, visits with patients at CSH.

## 11

Harold A. and Dorothy B. Snyder Foundation puts a finishing touch on the CSH Union Outpatient Center.

ENJOY THIS ISSUE

# TRANSFORMING LIVES IN MONMOUTH COUNTY

## OUR FIRST OUTPATIENT CENTER IN MONMOUTH COUNTY OPENED ITS DOORS TO PATIENTS THIS SUMMER

**C**SH is open for outpatient services in Monmouth County, NJ for the first time in our 130 year history. The second of four new outpatient centers funded by the **Transforming Lives 2.0** capital campaign was completed this summer and opened its doors to patients in July.

The opening of this new outpatient center is an important milestone in the CSH Foundation's \$45 million **Transforming Lives 2.0** capital campaign that is funding the expansion of CSH to reach more children living with special healthcare needs. This new outpatient center provides convenient access to specialized care for more than 200,000 children who live in the area.

This campaign is the largest in CSH Foundation's history and is led by a team of New Jersey super stars including former Major League Baseball All-Star and Toms River resident, Todd Frazier, and his wife, Jackie. The Fraziers are working alongside members of the CSH Foundation Board of Trustees and capital campaign co-chairs, Mark Montenero, President of Autoland Toyota, Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, and RAM Trucks, and Ed McKenna, Senior Partner at McKenna, Dupont, Stone & Washburne and former Mayor of Red Bank.

"As a resident of Monmouth County, I am thrilled about the opening of this new facility and the impact it will have for children in Eatontown and surrounding areas," said McKenna, "Every time I walk into a Children's Specialized Hospital facility, I see miracles – and now I will be able to see them happening for children in my own community."

The new CSH outpatient center occupies the second floor of the brand new, four-story Anne Vogel Family Care and Wellness Center, an RWJBH facility that provides comprehensive women's services, pediatric specialty services, wellness education and nutrition resources, specialty surgical services, a blood drawing station and an Urgent Care Center.



The second new outpatient center of the Transforming Lives 2.0 campaign is open and treating kids.

"Being part of the RWJBarnabas Health Children's Health Network and the Anne Vogel Family Care and Wellness Center not only allows us to enhance availability to our specialized services for children and families that need us but also provides local families with access to a variety of medical services for their entire family in one convenient location," added Dr. Matthew B. McDonald III, President and CEO, Children's Specialized Hospital.

The **Transforming Lives 2.0** capital campaign has raised over 75% of the \$45 million goal to bring the new Monmouth and Union outpatient centers to fruition. The remaining funds are being raised through the end of 2022 so we can complete the funding of the construction of the new Bayonne and Toms River outpatient centers, the renovations to our long term care center in Mountainside, and vital research studies that will design the next generation of pediatric care. ■

Learn more about Transforming Lives 2.0 at [give2csh.org](https://give2csh.org)

# ADVANCING HEALTH

## PSEG FOUNDATION HELPS CSH BREAK BARRIERS TO CARE THROUGH SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH SCREENING PROGRAM



Members of the CSH staff at the Hamilton outpatient center pack up food for patient families facing food insecurity.

**S**ocial Determinants of Health (SDoH) are defined by the World Health Organization as the "conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age, and the wide set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of daily life." Social determinants of health for children include income level, housing quality, food insecurity, parental mental health, and lack of access to childcare or quality education, all of which affect a child's overall wellness.

SDoH account for 80% of all health outcomes, and when children do not have access to the best resources, they can experience health inequity. Without intervention, a cycle of poor health can be perpetuated for generations. But by shifting our approach to actively screen our patients for SDoH, Children's Specialized Hospital (CSH) will break through barriers to advance health equity and ensure that every child we treat has the opportunity to be as healthy as possible.

As a provider of family-centered care, CSH is committed to treating the whole child—body, mind, and soul—and

including families in their child's care plan. More than 50% of the families who bring their children to CSH for treatment have low to moderate income levels. In response, the Center for Discovery, Innovation and Development (CDID) at Children's Specialized Hospital (CSH) has launched an initiative to uncover and address SDoH in our patient population because our clinicians and experts understand that caring for children goes beyond their medical needs.

"Addressing SDoH is vital in improving health, reducing the disparities in healthcare, and improving the community," said Victoria Porterfield Gregorio, PhD, EDM, Director, CDID at CSH.

CDID has initiated a fully integrated screening program across all CSH sites to identify SDoH for our patients and their families. Funded by a \$300,000 grant from PSEG Foundation, this screening program has been rolled out to nearly all 15 CSH locations across New Jersey.

"By addressing SDoH, the PSEG Foundation is helping to build thriving and sustainable communities, aiming to break the cycle of poverty and poor health outcomes for impoverished communities," said Calvin Ledford, President PSEG Foundation. "Moreover, this collaborative effort will help to reduce inequalities and inequities in the healthcare system, provide better health outcomes for patients and families, as well as help build a healthier and better community."

CSH staff screens patient families for housing situations, family structure, transportation methods, availability of healthy foods, as well as other social determinants that impact our patients' health. The screening process has helped us to identify families in need of additional services and provide them with the resources they need to access them.

When CSH clinicians and providers review a child's medical chart, the notes from the family's SDoH screening are included. This information gives a more holistic view of the patient's overall health and wellbeing. For example, if a clinician knows that a family is suffering from food insecurity,

# EQUITY

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*The impact on our families has been life-changing since the launch of our Social Determinants of Health screening program.*

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— VICTORIA PORTERFIELD GREGORIO, PhD, EDM —

Director, Center for Discovery, Innovation & Development  
Children's Specialized Hospital

they can factor the lack of a healthy, balanced diet into their assessment of the child they are treating.

SDoH data is also used to help identify appropriate referrals to necessary services and develop partnerships with community organizations like the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. Since the start of SDoH screenings at CSH, hundreds of our patient families who identify as food insecure have received packages of shelf-stable, healthy food at CSH facilities through this partnership with the food bank. The SDoH screening program has led to an additional partnership with Moms Helping Moms Foundation which provides diapers for our patient families in need.

"The funds provided by PSEG Foundation are critical to the success of this program," said Philip Salerno III, President and Chief Development Officer at Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation. "PSE&G has been a steadfast community partner for many years and funding this program proves their commitment to the health and well-being of children and families in the communities we both serve."

Since the launch of the program, CSH has conducted nearly 10,000 screenings with families. More than 2,500 families have been provided resources and assistance specific to their needs. Additionally, families who have participated in the program have had a significantly reduced rate of missed appointments compared to families who have not yet been screened.

"Our whole experience with Children's Specialized Hospital has been remarkable, but this goes above and beyond" shared one parent. "It is such a relief that there are still organizations that truly care about the whole family and how to keep our kids healthy." ■

## CSH IS #1 IN PATIENT OUTCOMES

Children's Specialized Hospital is the nation's leading provider of pediatric rehabilitation, the region's largest provider of autism services, and recognized by Newsweek as one of the World's Best Specialized Hospitals. In addition to our unique programs and services, another reason we are recognized as the leader in specialized pediatrics is because we consistently rank in the 100th percentile on the WeeFIM System, a pediatric version of the Functional Independence Measure™ (FIM) System.

WeeFIM documents and tracks functional performance in children and adolescents with acquired or congenital disabilities by measuring a child's need for assistance, in addition to the severity of disability. It also provides a method to evaluate outcomes for pediatric rehabilitation programs.



"Children's Specialized Hospital has been ranked in WeeFIM's 100th percentile for the past three quarters which reconfirms what we already knew—that we are the #1 pediatric rehabilitation hospital in the nation," said Dr. Matthew B. McDonald III, President and CEO at Children's Specialized Hospital. "Thanks to the generosity of donors like you and the steadfast commitment of our innovative and skilled team, we are able to ensure that when a patient is discharged from our services, they are returning home with the best possible outcomes."

For 130 years, CSH has been leading the way in rehabilitative care for children and evolving to meet each new generation's greatest needs. We are proud to be renowned for providing the best possible outcomes for families in New Jersey and are dedicated to expanding our services in pursuit of a world where all children have the chance to reach their full potential.

## Early Intervention is the Most Critical Thing We Can Do for Our Children

John Ryan's mom, Emeline, describes her baby as a sweet boy who is very calm and warm. He likes to cuddle, read books and attentively watch those around him. When John Ryan was six-months-old, however, his parents began noticing that he was very "floppy." He was not holding his head up or able to attempt sitting up on his own—two important milestones for a baby. At his six-month checkup, the family pediatrician confirmed that John Ryan's development was delayed and she additionally noted an abnormal pattern in John Ryan's head growth which was consistently measuring in the 98th percentile for his age.

After that visit, John Ryan's pediatrician ordered an ultrasound and referred the family to a pediatric neurologist for an MRI. The MRI confirmed what the ultrasound had shown and John Ryan was diagnosed with **macrocephaly with benign congenital hypotonia**. Macrocephaly shows as an overly large head caused by abnormalities in the brain. In John Ryan's case, he was experiencing fluid build-up that was causing pressure in his brain resulting in his lack of muscle tone, or hypotonia. John Ryan was immediately recommended for intensive therapy treatment.

"When I first learned of his diagnosis I was overwhelmed and concerned," said Emeline. "My husband had an aneurysm that we had treated a few



years ago. We are no strangers to being in a hospital environment. However, when it is a child of your own it seems much scarier and much more uncertain. After going through all the doctors, neurologists and MRI, we landed at CSH. From there on we felt like we could exhale. They answered all of our questions, and made me feel normal in a very uncomfortable situation. I am very glad to have found a team at CSH that we can trust."

John Ryan began physical and occupational therapy at the Children's Specialized Hospital (CSH) New Brunswick inpatient facility. Emeline shared that John Ryan loves everything about the environment at CSH—from the front desk to all of the therapists. She also explained that he feels extremely comfortable during his sessions and absolutely loves the large selection of toys available to play with.

"Working with his therapists, Samantha and Stephanie, has been such a great experience for us at CSH. They have an extraordinary way of not only making sure that we feel comfortable but also understanding what our goals are and how we can bring what we learn at therapy to our home," said Emeline.

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*We are no strangers to being in a hospital environment. But when it is a child of your own, it seems much scarier and much more uncertain.*

*I am very glad to have found a team at CSH that we can trust.*

”

— EMELINE FERNANDEZ —  
John Ryan's Mom

JOHN RYAN FERNANDEZ



Struggling with motor planning, John Ryan would get easily frustrated because he did not have the ability retrieve an object that he wanted. During the months he spent at CSH he made great progress and is beginning to understand what steps to take to either get to the toy he wants or communicate his wants with his family. His muscles are getting much stronger and he is able to do things that he could not before, like standing and dancing.

Now, just three months after his first birthday, John Ryan is making significant progress. It was recently discovered that John Ryan has a rare genetic condition called GATAD2B-associated neurodevelopmental disorder (GAND). GAND affects the way a child's brain develops and the most common symptoms are severe intellectual disability, poor speech development, a large head, and low muscle tone. This new diagnosis provides a more detailed road map for John Ryan's rehabilitative care at CSH.

CSH has given John Ryan's family a sense of peace and normalcy. Having a busy home with two children and working parents makes the family appreciate the time that they have together. John Ryan has an older sister, Giulianianna, who has been educated about her brother's condition by her parents and his care team. She understood immediately that her little brother could not interact with her as some



other babies would and she is very sweet and gentle with him. John Ryan's father, Joao, enjoys learning about what his son does at therapy, as he also experienced delayed milestones as a child. Joao explained that being able to help his son is extremely rewarding because he did not have the same resources as John Ryan does today at CSH.

When asked if she has advice for families going through similar situations, Emeline said, "Being patient through the process is very important, there are many rough and frustrating days. However, early intervention is the most critical thing we can do for our children. I did not wait to get him the help he needed. I sought after professionals and made sure I got informed. I believe that was what made therapy so successful for us. The first year of their life they are just soaking up everything they learn and I wanted to take advantage of that to be able to help him build his strength early on."

Emeline continued, "It can feel lonely, but there are so many families going through the same things and we are all learning as we go. The most important thing we can do is bring what we learn in our therapy sessions and apply it at home. Working in alignment with the CSH team has helped us in so many ways. We can only reach our goals if we do the work, too." ■

# I CSH GIVING DAY

## THE FIRST ANNUAL I LOVE CSH GIVING DAY WAS A HOME RUN



On June 15th, Major League Baseball All-Star and Olympian, Todd Frazier, teamed up with Nikos Kaymakcian, a patient at the Children's Specialized Hospital (CSH) Toms River outpatient center for the first ever I LOVE CSH Giving Day. This inaugural celebration was launched to bring the New Jersey community together in support of the thousands of local children living with special healthcare needs and their families.

Throughout the day, patients at all CSH outpatient centers spun a prize wheel to win a gift as they came in for their appointments. The children at our inpatient hospital in New Brunswick and those who live in our long term care centers in Mountainside and Toms River received gift bags full of fun items.

That evening, CSH staff, supporters, members of the CSH Foundation Board of Trustees, the Frazier family and the Kaymakcian family gathered at ShoreTown Ballpark in Lakewood, NJ where Nikos threw the ceremonial first pitch to Todd Frazier before the Jersey Shore BlueClaws game.

Nikos, the true super star of the day, was born with spina bifida, a birth defect in which an area of the spinal column

doesn't form properly, leaving a section of the spinal cord and spinal nerves exposed through an opening in the back. This diagnosis was uncovered during his mother's prenatal scan at 20 weeks gestation.

"The doctor explained to us scientifically what this diagnosis was and what to expect, saying that our son would never walk or use the bathroom on his own, and that he would need a shunt to drain fluid from his brain," shared Nicole, Nikos' mom. "I remember crying thinking my son was going to have no quality of life, asking this doctor to tell me there is a chance, even just a 1% chance, that my son would be able to do these things—and he said no."

After visiting a neurosurgeon for a second opinion, Nikos' parents found hope. Nikos was born October 29, 2018 and the very next day the neurosurgeon performed the necessary surgery to repair his spine. The family kept up with Nikos' care which led them to CSH for a physical therapy evaluation just before his first birthday. He's been working with our expert therapists ever since.

**"One of the biggest obstacles that Nikos has overcome is walking. I think back to my 20-week ultrasound when the doctor told me my son would never walk and now he is," shares Nicole. "He used to use a light gait to assist, and now he's walking with braces and his walker, taking steps on his own. My greatest hope is that he will continue to get stronger and be able to walk more independently."**

I LOVE CSH Giving Day is about celebrating the victories of children like Nikos and bringing awareness to the many children who need access to specialized care to thrive. The day raised more than \$15,000 for the **Transforming Lives 2.0** capital campaign that is funding the expansion of CSH services to more children throughout NJ, including a brand new, state-of-the-art outpatient center in Eatontown where Nikos will now receive his care. Frazier and his wife, Jackie, are honorary campaign co-chairs, helping us spread the word about the miracles that happen at CSH every day and raise the funds necessary to reach our \$45 million campaign goal.

"We are so grateful for the Fraziers' selfless commitment to this campaign," said Philip Salerno III, President and Chief Development Officer at CSH Foundation. "Their involvement has made a tremendous impact on the success of our first Giving Day and the capital campaign as a whole. Others have truly been inspired by them and that has helped us raise 80% of the funds we need to reach our goal." ■

LJ didn't get to drive a golf cart, but he enjoyed pretending and riding around Metedeconk with his family.



## CSH FOUNDATION 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF OPEN

CSH Foundation hosted their 6th Annual Open at Metedeconk National Golf Course in Jackson, NJ on June 20th with more than 100 golfers in attendance—plus a few very special guests.

We were joined by the Lopes and Durborow families, whose children's lives have been transformed by the expert staff at CSH. These special families brought the CSH Foundation's mission to life by sharing the stories of their children's journeys with the golfers. LJ and Colbie even enjoyed time out on the course visiting with the golfers and picking up some pro tips.

The Open raised more than \$275,000 for CSH and the **Transforming Lives 2.0** capital campaign that is designing the next generation of pediatric healthcare. "The generosity of the golfers who attend this outing never ceases to amaze me," said Philip Salerno III, President & Chief Development Officer, CSH Foundation. "This is a group of people who truly understand our mission and show up for the kids, not just for what's always a great day of golf."

# ALL 'FORE' THE KIDS

## PSE&G 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL VENDOR GOLF OUTING RAISES \$715,000 FOR CSH

PSE&G has been a steadfast supporter of Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation for many years. Their annual Vendor Golf Outing is just one of the many ways the corporation rallies the community to support New Jersey's children living with special healthcare needs. Each year this golf outing outperforms the year before and we are thrilled to announce that this year's outing raised over \$715,000 for the kids at CSH!

We extend a special thank you to Vic Viscomi, who has been spearheading this outing since its inception and a true champion for CSH throughout his career at PSE&G. Heartfelt thanks are also in order for the new event chairs, Mike Kayes & Ron Shute as well as Danita Fox and Marie Mluzan for organizing this incredible event.



*Pictured: Dr. Matthew B. McDonald III, President & CEO, Children's Specialized Hospital; Emeline, Julianna, Joao and John Ryan Fernandez, CSH patient family; and Mike Kayes, Sr. Director Construction, PSE&G and Co-Chair, PSE&G Vendor Golf Outing.*

# THEY RUN BECAUSE THEY CARE

## 13 RUNNERS LACE UP FOR CSH AT THE 2022 TCS NEW YORK CITY MARATHON

**C**hildren's Specialized Hospital Foundation (CSHF) is thrilled to be participating once again in the TCS New York City Marathon Official Charity Partner Program. Our team of 13 runners—CSHF's largest ever—is running to raise critical funds to support the expansion of the Children's Specialized Hospital Long Term Care center in Mountainside, NJ.

"The TCS New York City Marathon serves as one of the world's largest fundraising platforms supporting hundreds of charities and philanthropic efforts," said Christine Burke, Senior VP of Strategic Partnerships, NYRR. "We are very proud to support the Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation team and the incredible impact they have made in their communities as they raise important funds to benefit Children's Specialized Hospital."

More than 40 children reside in the CSH Long Term Care center in Mountainside, NJ because their medical conditions are so complex that they require 24-hour care that can't be given at home. Advances in medical technology are enhancing the lives of our most medically fragile patients and CSH Foundation is rising to meet their needs by funding the renovation of our Long Term Care center into a state-of-the-art medical center.

"We're excited to have such a large team running this year," said Philip Salerno III, President & Chief Development Officer, Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation. "I'm inspired by their dedication and grateful to each one of our team members for making the commitment to not only train for and run the marathon, but to raise the funds we need to change the future for children living with special healthcare needs." ■



Marco Rita sports his  
CSH Foundation Marathon  
shirt with his daughter  
(and CSH patient) Izzy.

*Pictured: Marco and Izzy Rita. Marco and Sonia Rita are the parents of Izzy—also known as Izzy Warrior Princess—a CSH patient who reached all her milestones at CSH after a spinal cord tumor was removed when she was one. Sonia recently joined the CSH staff as a member of Family Faculty at our new Union outpatient center and has also been elected to the CSH Board of Trustees. We're so proud to have them as part of the CSHF Marathon Team.*

The 2022 TCS New York City Marathon is Sunday, November 6.

**Meet our 13 runners and support the Children's Specialized Hospital  
Foundation TCS NYC Marathon 2022 Charity Team at  
<https://bit.ly/cshmarathonteam> or by scanning this code**





Ali Stroker poses with Poppy at CSH New Brunswick inpatient hospital.

# STAR POWER AT CSH

ACTOR, AUTHOR AND SINGER, **ALI STROKER**, VISITS THE KIDS AT CSH

**A**li Stroker, actor, author, singer, and former Children's Specialized Hospital (CSH) patient visited the CSH inpatient hospital in New Brunswick this summer to sing for our patients and read aloud her new book, *Ali and the Sea Stars*.

When Ali was just two years old, she was in a car accident that resulted in a spinal cord injury that left her paralyzed from the waist down. An inspiration to all, Ali reminded our patients that "you *can* do the impossible—the impossible is just impossible until someone does it."

Ali was the first wheelchair-using actor to appear on a Broadway stage and also the first to be nominated for and win a Tony Award. Since then she has gone on to appear in many popular television shows and movies.

Ali's mission to improve the lives of others through the arts is captured in her motto: "Turning Your Limitations Into Your Opportunities." She speaks all over the world spreading this message and inspiring people to break the barriers that are holding them back.

When reflecting on the impact that CSH had on her life, Ali said, "Growing up with a spinal cord injury, one big theme is becoming independent. But when you are differently abled, the reality is that you're going to need help and support." She continued, "To have received this help and support from Children's at the very beginning set me on this track in a positive way. That has helped me create a wonderful life." ■

# A HEARTWARMING FINISHING TOUCH

FOR THE KENNETH ESDALE PAVILION CSH OUTPATIENT CENTER



The first of four new outpatient centers funded by the **Transforming Lives 2.0** capital campaign was opened in November, 2021 as the Kenneth Esdale Pavilion CSH Outpatient Center. This state-of-the-art facility located in Union, NJ, incorporates a warm, friendly atmosphere with the latest technology so our patients have the best experience when they visit us. Using input from staff and our Family Faculty representatives in the design of the building and treatment rooms, this building represents a new standard of excellence for pediatric care in New Jersey and beyond.

Outside the treatment rooms is an equally important space—the playground—which was made possible by a \$450,000 grant from the Harold B. and Dorothy A. Snyder Foundation. Incorporating specialized equipment and play into the therapies that our patients receive makes the hard work they're doing at each visit fun. By incorporating fun, the children not only enjoy their visits and look forward to returning to CSH, but they are learning important skills to help them reach their next milestone.

The Harold B. and Dorothy A. Snyder Foundation exists to provide financial support and empower the development and innovation of institutions and individuals in New Jersey that hold high promise. Its objective is to nurture, cultivate and unleash the potential of organizations and individuals in ways

that will positively impact the most needy and underserved in their communities. The Snyder Foundation's main areas of focus have been healthcare, education, social services and faith-based initiatives with a particular emphasis on Union County residents and institutions.

"Children's Specialized Hospital has been near and dear to the Harold B. & Dorothy A. Snyder Foundation for well over 40 years. We have provided financial support to assist them as they provide such special care for the precious children whom they have in their care," said Paul Cortese, Executive Director. "When we learned that a new outpatient clinic was to be built in Union, with our primary area of support being Union County, we jumped at the chance to support this effort to bring incredible care closer to the children who need it."

As a finishing touch on the playground at the Kenneth Esdale Pavilion, the Snyder Foundation designed a sign that incorporates four generations of handprints from Arline (Snyder) Cortese (for whom the playground is dedicated), her daughter, granddaughter and great granddaughter. This heartwarming sign is a testament to their commitment to changing the odds for success by investing in the community and a beautiful addition to our playground. ■



## TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING MIRACLES

THANK YOU TO OUR  
PARTNERS!



During the month of May, our local **Costco Warehouses** and their members vowed to #ChangeKidsHealth by raising over **\$720,000** for our patients at CSH!

*Thank you Costco!*



There was no better way to beat the summer heat than by celebrating **Miracle Treat Day** with our friends at Dairy Queen! Even our CMNH NJ Champion, Colbie, joined in on the fun and enjoyed her favorite Blizzard – Oreo!



Thank you, **Walmart and Sam's Club**! Associates across the country rallied to #ChangeKidsHealth and change the future right in their own communities, raising over **\$200,000** for CSH. We couldn't be more grateful!

**Change Kids' Health.  
Change the Future.**

Give Today!



JOANN



JOANN

**JOANN**, the nation's leading fabric and craft specialty retailer, has inspired customers to create and give back with their hands, hearts, and minds! Thank you JOANN for raising funds for our patients at CSH!

SAVE THE DATE



**extra life**

a program of  
Children's Miracle Network Hospitals

**Calling all gamers!**

Commit to #ChangeKidsHealth by playing games and signing up for **Extra Life 2022!**

Whether you commit to playing on National Game Day on **November 5th**, or you create your own game day, 100% of your fundraising stays local to support CSH! Last year, our dedicated Extra Lifers raised over \$142,000, funding a brand new audiology booth at our hospital!

For more information, please visit [www.extra-life.org/](http://www.extra-life.org/). We can't wait to see what our gamers accomplish this year!



**New partner alert!**

We are excited to welcome **7-Eleven** to the CMNH family! Make sure to visit your local 7-Eleven from **November 1, 2022 – January 10, 2023** to help support 7-Eleven's first-ever campaign supporting Children's Specialized Hospital.

*Thank you 7-Eleven!*



Stop into your local **Rite Aid** during the month of **November** to #ChangeKidsHealth at Children's Specialized Hospital! Last year, you helped our friends at Rite Aid raise \$61,375 — 100% of which benefits our patients.

*Thank you, Rite Aid!*

# A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation is proud to acknowledge the generous support of our donors. We are pleased to recognize the following donors who supported us with major gifts between **March 1 through August 31, 2022**.

## **Benefactor Society (\$250,000+)**

- The Estate of Marie Posluszny

## **Humanitarian Society (\$50,000+)**

- Charles F. Armbrust
- Eisenreich Family Foundation, Inc.
- Jingoli Power, LLC

## **Founder Society (\$25,000+)**

- Becton, Dickinson and Company
- Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas A. Boccella
- Burns & McDonnell Engineering Co.
- Eii, Inc.
- Ferreira Construction
- Furino & Sons, Inc.
- Haugland Energy Group LLC
- Dr. Heinz K. Hofmeister
- J. Fletcher Creamer & Son, Inc.
- Toms River Music Academy
- Wakefern Food Corporation

## **Cornerstone Society (\$10,000+)**

- The Action Environmental Group, Inc.
- Angelo Fiorito Trust
- Anonymous
- Black & Veatch
- CMC Energy Services, Inc.
- C. Northrop and A. Marder Pond Foundation
- The Carian Group Corporation
- E.J. Grassmann Trust
- Elecnor Hawkeye LLC
- Estate of Adelaide C. Kroeger
- Grampy's Charities Gives
- Harlan Electric Company, Inc.
- ICF Consulting Group, Inc.
- Investors Bank
- J.W. Didado Electric
- Knights of Columbus Linden Council 2859
- Langan
- The Margaret and Peter Chang Foundation
- Matrix NAC

- McPhee Electric
- Michael Riesz & Co., Inc.
- NJ State Council Sheet Metal Workers International Association • Provident Bank Foundation
- PSE&G Corporation
- Power Engineers, Inc.
- Bob Roberts
- Sargent & Lundy, LLC
- Phyllis M. Skillman
- Skoda Contracting
- Springfield-Hillside B.P.O.E. Lodge 2004
- Stevens Institute of Technology
- Valiant Power Group
- Waters & Bugbee, Inc.
- Mary Weichert
- Young Management & Consulting
- Zampella Family Foundation

## WE'RE PROUD TO BE ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO WORK IN NJ



**W**e always knew it, but now it is official—CSH Foundation is pleased to announce our most recent award as one of NJBIZ Best Places to Work in NJ 2022! One of only four nonprofits to make the list, we are so proud to be recognized, not just for the hard work we do for the kids at CSH, but for the culture we have created for our staff.

The passion that we all share for our mission drives the incredible results that we have achieved over the last three decades. We are able to see the results of the work we do in the smiles on the faces of the kids at CSH every single day. Thank you for helping us achieve the success we need to not only change the lives of children in New Jersey and beyond, but to be one of the best places to work in New Jersey.

# TRANSFORMING LIVES 2.0

**"What keeps me up at night are the 200,000 children in NJ that we have yet to reach."**

Dr. Colin O'Reilly, DO, FAAP, FACOP, FCCP  
Vice President & Chief Medical Officer, Children's Specialized Hospital



100% of your gift to the **Transforming Lives 2.0** campaign for Children's Specialized Hospital will help us provide care to more children so they, too, have the opportunity to reach their full potential.



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## OUR MISSION

Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation's mission is to inspire and secure philanthropic support for Children's Specialized Hospital, the preeminent provider of specialized healthcare for children and adolescents facing special health challenges—from chronic illnesses and complex physical disabilities like brain and spinal cord injuries to a full scope of developmental, behavioral and mental health concerns.

Our award-winning doctors, researchers and pediatric specialists work with patients and families in pursuit of the vision of a world where all children can reach their full potential. Children's Specialized Hospital depends on the generosity of donors to discover innovative ways to help more children break barriers and transform their lives.



**100% of every donation** supports the life-changing care and cutting-edge research at Children's Specialized Hospital.

## To learn more about Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation

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